IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method in a network data processing system for distributed computing, the method comprising:

accepting a task for distributed computing;

sending work units to a plurality of data processing systems on a network, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems includes a software for accepting a work unit, processing the work unit to generate a result, and returning the result, wherein the software is monitored for compliance with an operation policy requiring a connection to the network and allocating a period of time for processing work units; and

receiving results from the plurality of data processing systems.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

assigning each of the plurality of data processing systems to a different user.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems is in a different location.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes as set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to accept a task for distributed computing; send work units to a plurality of data processing systems on a network, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems includes a software for accepting a work unit, processing the work unit to generate a result, and returning the result, wherein the software is monitored for compliance with an operation policy requiring a connection to the network and allocating a period of time for processing work units; and receive results from the plurality of data processing systems.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A data processing system for distributed computing, the data processing system comprising:

accepting means for accepting a task for distributed computing;

sending means for sending work units to a plurality of data processing systems on a network, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems includes a software for accepting a work unit, processing the work unit to generate a result, and returning the result, wherein the software is monitored for compliance with an operation policy requiring a connection to the network and allocating a period of time for processing work units; and

receiving means for receiving results from the plurality of data processing systems.

16. (Original) The data processing system of claim 15 further comprising:

assigning means for assigning each of the plurality of data processing systems to a different user.

17. (Original) The data processing system of claim 15, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems is in a different location.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for distributed computing, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for accepting a task for distributed computing;

second instructions for sending work units to a plurality of data processing systems on a network, wherein each data processing system within the plurality of data processing systems includes a software for accepting a work unit, processing the work unit to generate a result, and returning the result, wherein the software is monitored for compliance with an operation policy requiring a connection to the network and allocating a period of time for processing work units; and

third instructions for receiving results from the plurality of data processing systems.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)